

The  
Fulton  
County **OFFICE**  
**FOR AGING**  
*Vital information  
for vital generations.*

19 N. William St., Johnstown, NY 12095 • Andrea Fettinger, BA, MEd, Director

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## **Fulton Co. Long Term Care Council**

**February 22, 2024**

**8:30am**

**Fulton Co. Office for Aging**

### **NOTES**

- Andrea welcomed those in attendance and thanked them for attending
- Polly Saltsman, OFA Caseworker provided an update NYConnects/OFA and shared that Fulton Co. Office for Aging will be hosting the Powerful Tools for Caregivers class beginning in May, flyer attached.
- Informal Discussion on the following topics ensued:
  - State Budget – general concensus that all divisions at the state level are experiencing a cut prior to any Legislative adds are made. Andrea expressed frustration over Aging funding being one of the lowest funded entities in the state budget – so many issues to discuss on this, but some advocacy is attached.
  - Food Insecurity – recent LH article that Fulton County is 25% food insecure
    - Role of food pantries – very helpful to those in need
      - Challenges of food pantries – out of date donated food; funding is inconsistent; running out of food each week due to high numbers using the pantries
    - Role of free lunches/meals across the county – many locations offer free lunches, an updated listing is being created with accurate information and will distributed soon which will include updated food pantry locations.
  - Homelessness/Code Blue
    - Some Code Blue participants have been the Recovery Center for coffee and a warm place – an informal coffee and recovery is held regularly during the week at the Recovery Center.

- Discussed how to assist homeless back into mainstream living; some obstacles still exist (i.e. fewer staff to offer either peer or supervised support to the homeless often make it difficult for the homeless person succeed); HFM Prevention Council offers Life Skills sessions for the residents of its apartment/housing program for people in recovery, which is supportive housing, applicants need to go thru SPOA and have to be at risk of homelessness. It is independent living with peer coaches.
- Countywide staffing issues – not just government – status – will keep this on the agenda for the long term - continues
- Member Input
  - The Recovery Center is starting a Parenting Class via the Fulton Co Corrections Facility. It is for incarcerated individuals and for people who have been discharged to the community.
  - HFM Prevention/Recovery Center is hosting a Basic Life Skills class at the Gloversville Recover Center
  - Family Counseling Center and Helios is close to being able to apply for Behavioral Health clinic
  - OFA getting ready for Older Americans Month
  - OFA preparing for Powerful Tools for Caregivers
  - OFA Summer Picnic will be September 12, 2024
- Adjourn 9:45am
  - Next Meeting: Thursday, May 16, 2024, 8:30am at OFA